GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4885
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2000
DATA OF NUCLEAR TESTS
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have collected some data of nuclear tests at Pokhran in 1998; and

(b) if so, the details thereof in terms of protection of India`s security interests?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY (SMT. VASUNDHARA RAJE)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The five tests conducted in May 1998 have provided Government with an adequate scientific data base for designing the types of weapons needed for a credible minimum nuclear deterrent. The Indian credi- ble minimum nuclear deterrent is currently based on a range of possible weapon systems from low yields to 200 kilotons involving fission, boosted fission and two-stage thermonuclear designs.